



771st Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 771, Agenda item 2

**DECISION No. 898
THEME, AGENDA AND MODALITIES FOR THE EIGHTEENTH
ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM**

1 and 2 February 2010 and 24 to 26 May 2010

The Permanent Council,

Pursuant to Chapter VII, paragraphs 21 to 32, of the Helsinki Document 1992; Chapter IX, paragraph 20, of the Budapest Document 1994; Ministerial Council Decision No. 10/04 of 7 December 2004; Ministerial Council Decision No. 4/06 of 26 July 2006; and Permanent Council Decision No. 743 of 19 October 2006,

Relying on the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension (MC(11).JOUR/2), the OSCE Border Security and Management Concept (MC.DOC/2/05), Ministerial Council Decision No. 11/06 on future transport dialogue in the OSCE and Ministerial Council Decision No. 9/08 on Follow-Up to the Sixteenth Economic and Environmental Forum on Maritime and Inland Waterways Co-operation,

Building upon the outcomes of past Economic and Environmental Forums, as well as on the results of relevant OSCE activities including follow-up activities,

Taking into account the closing statement by the Chairperson of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Economic and Environmental Forum,

Decides that:

1. The theme of the Eighteenth Economic and Environmental Forum will be: “Promoting good governance at border crossings, improving the security of land transportation and facilitating international transport by road and rail in the OSCE region”;
2. The Eighteenth Economic and Environmental Forum will be held over a period of five days, distributed as follows, and without setting a precedent for future Economic and Environmental Forums:
 - 2.1 On 1 and 2 February 2010 in Vienna;
 - 2.2 From 24 to 26 May 2010 in Prague;

3. The agendas of the two segments of the Forum would focus on the following topics:
 - Best practices and good governance at border crossings and in customs procedures, as part of border management, including the aspects of rule of law, transparency, integrity, co-ordination and harmonization;
 - Facilitation of international land-transport and cross-border operations, paying due attention to the specific needs of landlocked developing countries, in order to strengthen economic co-operation during the current economic downturn;
 - Safeguarding of the security of the international transport circuit, including the fight against transnational crime, terrorism and trafficking in weapons, drugs and human beings;
 - Impact of transportation on environment and security;
4. Moreover, having a view to its tasks, the Economic and Environmental Forum will review the implementation of OSCE commitments in the economic and environmental dimension. The review, to be integrated into the second segment of the Forum, will address OSCE commitments related to the facilitation of international transport and the security of inland transport;
5. The discussions of the Forum should benefit from cross-dimensional input provided by other OSCE bodies and relevant meetings, including two preparatory conferences to take place outside of Vienna, organized by the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities under the guidance of the 2010 OSCE Chairmanship, and deliberations in various international organizations. Timetables of both segments of the Forum will be presented to the Economic and Environmental Committee and determined by the OSCE Chairmanship;
6. Moreover, having a view to its tasks, the Economic and Environmental Forum will discuss current and future activities for the economic and environmental dimension, in particular the work in implementation of the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension;
7. The participating States are encouraged to be represented at a high level, by senior officials responsible for shaping international economic and environmental policy in the OSCE area. Participation in their delegations of representatives from the business and scientific communities, as well as other relevant actors of civil society, would be welcome;
8. As in previous years, the format of the Economic and Environmental Forum should provide for the active involvement of relevant international organizations and encourage open discussions;
9. The following international organizations, international organs, regional groupings and conferences of States are invited to participate in the Eighteenth Economic and Environmental Forum: Asian Development Bank; Barents Euro-Arctic Council; Black Sea Economic Co-operation; Central European Initiative; Collective Security Treaty Organization; Commonwealth of Independent States; Conference on Interaction and

Confidence-Building Measures in Asia; Council of Europe; Council of the Baltic Sea States; Economic Co-operation Organization; Eurasian Economic Community; European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders (FRONTEX); European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; European Environment Agency; European Investment Bank; Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA; Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail; International Atomic Energy Agency; International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea; International Labour Organization; International Maritime Organisation; International Monetary Fund; International Organization for Migration; International Rail Transport Committee; International Road Transport Union; International Road Federation; International Union of Railways; International Transport Forum; North Atlantic Treaty Organization; Organization for Co-operation of Railways; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM; Organization of the Islamic Conference; Regional Cooperation Council; Southeast European Cooperative Initiative; South Eastern Europe Transport Observatory; Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; Shanghai Co-operation Organization; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; United Nations Development Programme; United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; United Nations Environment Programme; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia; World Bank Group; World Customs Organization; World Trade Organization and other relevant organizations;

10. The Partners for Co-operation are invited to participate in the Eighteenth Economic and Environmental Forum;

11. Upon request by a delegation of an OSCE participating State, regional groupings or expert academics and business representatives may also be invited, as appropriate, to participate in the Eighteenth Economic and Environmental Forum;

12. Subject to the provisions contained in Chapter IV, paragraphs 15 and 16, of the Helsinki Document 1992, the representatives of non-governmental organizations with relevant experience in the area under discussion are also invited to participate in the Eighteenth Economic and Environmental Forum;

13. In line with the practices established over the past years with regard to meetings of the Economic and Environmental Forum and their preparatory process, the Chairperson of both segments of the Eighteenth Economic and Environmental Forum will present summary conclusions and policy recommendations drawn from the discussions. The Economic and Environmental Committee will further include the conclusions of the Chairperson and the reports of the rapporteurs in its discussions so that the Permanent Council can take the decisions required for appropriate policy translation and follow-up activities.